REMARKS

Status of the Claims

- Claims 1-16 are pending in the Application after entry of this amendment.

- Claims 1-16 are rejected by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-16 stand rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,836,778 to Manikutty et al. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Maunikutty et al. teaches "Techniques for *changing* XML content in a relational database (Title). Notably, techniques are provided for changing data for an XML construct in an SQL/XML compliant database management system (DBMS). The DBMS allows instances of XML type to represent XML constructs, such as XML documents, XML elements, XML attributes, and fragments of XML documents. An SQL statement is received that includes an XML operator that operates on a particular component in an instance of XML type. During execution of the SQL statement, the XML operator is evaluated by *modifying content* for the component without modifying the entire instance. For example, *an XML delete operator deletes the particular component* from the instance. *Other XML operators include an insert operator, an insert-before operator, an append-child operator, and an update operator.* During execution, these operators may be rewritten to operate on existing SQL constructs, or evaluated by updating only some of the existing SQL constructs, or both. (Abstract).

Simply stated, Manikutty et al. teaches a method to modify, delete, or insert data in an XML document or other XML construct that resides in a SQL relational database. Applicants consider this a valuable teaching. But, it is not Applicants claimed invention.

Applicants Claim 1 recites:

A method of distributing portions of a query over two or more execution engines, the method comprising:

receiving an input query;

identifying with a first analysis engine, a portion of the input query that can be processed by a first execution engine;

compiling the identified portion of the input query forming a first compiled portion;

rewriting the input query to form a first rewritten query wherein the identified portion of the input query is removed from the input query and replaced by a first placeholder;

passing the first rewritten query to a second analysis engine;

identifying with the second analysis engine, a portion of the first rewritten query that can be processed by a second execution engine; and

compiling the identified portion of the first rewritten query generating a second compiled portion wherein the input query is distributed over the first execution engine and the second execution engine.

The subject matter of Claim 1 is the distribution of query portions over two or more execution engines. A query, as known by those of skill in the art, is a request for information from a data source and does not involve the modification, deletion, or insertion of any data as performed in Manikutty et al. In basic terms, Claim 1 involves reading data whereas Manikutty et al. involves changing or writing data. The two operations are logical opposites.

Concerning Claim 1, the Examiner equates the method of distributing portions of a query over two or more execution engines to the teaching of Manikutty et al. in col. 4 lines 51-63. Manikutty et al. in the cited section teaches:

Techniques are provided for *changing* data for an XML construct in a SQL/XML compliant DBMS. (col. 4 lines 51-52). In these techniques, an SQL statement is received that includes one or more XML *modification operators* that operate on a particular component of an instance of XML type. (col. 4 lines 60-63).

Applicants note that no data modification is performed in Claim 1 of the present application.

In another example, the Examiner identifies the Claim 1 element of "rewriting the input query to form a first rewritten query wherein the identified portion of the input query is removed from the input query and replaced by a first placeholder" to multiple Manikutty et al. column 5 teachings (Present Office Action page 3).

The first column 5 teaching is lines 4-10 which teach: "When applied in statements with data manipulation language (DML) operations to *change stored data*, these operators may be rewritten as SQL operations that operate on SQL constructs, or may be evaluated by updating only some of the SQL constructs, such as the SQL constructs that store data for the particular component, or both. (col. 5, lines 4-10). Applicants note that this teaching involves changing data. Claim 1 involves querying over two or more execution engines.

Another Manikutty et al. teaching is: "During execution of the SQL statement, *the delete operator is evaluated by deleting the target component from the instance of XML type.* In another aspect of the invention, an SQL statement is received that includes an insert operator. The insert operator operates on a target component, data that indicates a name, and an expression." (col. 5, lines 20-25). Applicants note again that deleting a target component and inserting data is diametric to querying data as recited in Claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that Manikutty et al. fails to teach the elements of Claim 1. Also, Applicants submit that Manikutty et al. does not teach or suggest the same operation as recited in Claim 1 because the Manikuty et al. teaching of changing XML data in a SQL database is not comparable to distributing a query over two or more execution engines as recited in Claim 1. Manikuty et al. does not teach distributing a query over two or more engines.

Since Maikutty et al. does not teach the elements of independent Claim 1, Mainkutty et al. cannot anticipate Claim 1 or its dependent Claims 2-9 under 35 USC §102(b). Applicants note that independent Claims 10 and 11 also recite elements related to a distributed query process which is not taught or suggested in Manikutty et al. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal and reconsideration of independent Claims 1, 10, and 11 and their respective dependent claims as they patentably define over the cited art.

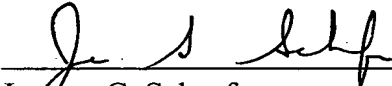## Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims patentably define over the cited art. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections. A Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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